

REMARKS

Claims 1-109 are currently pending. Pursuant to a restriction requirement issued December 6, 2000, Applicants elected with traverse to proceed with prosecution of the invention defined in Group I claims 1-43, 79, 87-89, 95-98. If and when these Group I claims are found allowable, Applicants reserve the right to request the amendment of the Group III claims to depend from Group I claims so that they may be rejoined with the Group I claims since the same grounds for patentability of the Group I claims would also impart patentability to the Group III claims. MPEP § 821.04.

Subsequently, pursuant to an election of species requirement, Applicants further elected species (b) graphite fibrils, (c) cylindrical fibrils and (g) structure $[C_nH_L][R'-R]_m$, which read on claims 22, 23, 24, 79, 87-89 and 95-98.

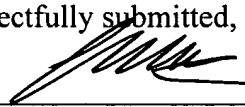
In the most recent Office Action of April 21, 2005, the Examiner required an even further election of a single disclosed species. However, as no guidance as to what further election was required, it is unclear what further species need be elected. In a good faith attempt to comply with the Examiner's request, Applicants thus further elect the species in the preceding paragraph in which the functional group is carboxyl as recited in claim 89.

Applicants respectfully submit that all of the elected Group I claims (*i.e.*, claims 1-43, 79, 87-89 and 95-98) are patentable and in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

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